

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY</b></p> <p>[ X ] Declaration Submitted With Initial Filing</p> <p>[ ] Declaration Submitted After Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16(e)) required)</p>	Attorney Docket No.	P026
	First Named Inventor	Drew D. Perkins
	Application Number	N/A
	Filing Date	November 12, 2003
	Art Unit	N/A
	Examiner Name	N/A

**I hereby declare that:**

Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name.

I believe the inventor(s) name below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DEPLOYING FORWARD ERROR  
CORRECTION IN OPTICAL TRANSMISSION NETWORKS AND THE  
DEPLOYMENT OF PHOTONIC INTEGRATED CIRCUIT (PIC) CHIPS WITH  
THE SAME**

the specification of which:

[ X ] is attached hereto;

[ ] was filed on [MM/DD/YYYY] as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on [MM/DD/YYYY] (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the entire contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or under 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified

below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date MM/DD/YYYY	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional patent application(s) listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
60/428,078	November 20, 2002

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any U.S. patent application(s) or international patent application(s) filed under the PCT designating the United States of America that is listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

W. Douglas Carothers, Jr

Registration No. 22,024

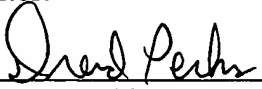
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**USPTO Customer No. 30471**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

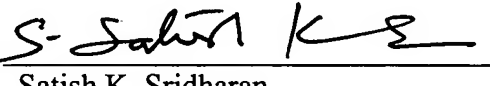
Name of first or sole inventor:

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Name of fourth inventor:

Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

(End)